# What is Food Protection and Why it Matters!

Travis Goodman
Food Defense Program Coordinator
Indiana State Department of Health
December 3, 2009

## Facts and Figures

- U.S. Food and Agriculture Industries:
- Generate more than \$1 trillion in economic activity
- o Employ more than 10 million people
- Provides an abundant and safe food and fiber supply
- Protecting this sector and the well-being of all that depend upon it for food represents a difficult, yet critically important responsibility.

## Owners and Operators

- 2.1 million farms
- 37,074 manufacturing firms
- 74,656 wholesalers
- 4,871 warehouse companies
- 34,633 packaging firms

- 198,814 transportation companies
- 153,277 retail grocery and specialty food chains
- 175,000 direct marketers
- 68,866 convenience store owners
- 24,861 mixed-type facilities owners

## Food Sector Background

- In 2007, a National Restaurant Association economic analysis concluded that:
  - 925,000 restaurants reach \$511 billion in sales/year
  - 34,000 supermarkets will reach \$460 billion in sales/year
  - Sector also consists of 13,000 smaller food markets,
     1,000 wholesale club stores, 13,000 convenience
     stores, and 28,000 gas station food outlets

## Indiana Background

- In Indiana there are approximately:
  - -30,000 restaurants
  - -1500 grocery stores
  - -1000 food processors

#### **Since 9/11**

- Food and Agriculture has been designated one of 17 critical infrastructures and Key Resources to protect from attack
- The Department of Homeland Security and the FBI are now assisting the Food Sector in Preparedness efforts
- Private industry and Academia are vitally important as stakeholders in protecting the infrastructure

#### **CDC** Estimates:

 Foodborne diseases cause approximately 76 million illnesses, 325,000 hospitalizations, and 5,000 deaths in the United States each year

#### **Definitions**

- Food Safety- is a scientific discipline describing handling, preparation, and storage of food in ways that prevent foodborne illness
  - Protecting the food supply from unintentional contamination

#### **Definitions**

- Food Quality- is the quality characteristics of food that is acceptable to consumers.
  - This includes external factors such as appearance (size, shape, color, gloss, and consistency), texture, and flavor; factors such as federal grade standards and internal (chemical, physical, microbiological)

#### Mass Foodborne Illness Outbreaks

- 1991-China- 300,000 ill from consuming clams contaminated with Hepatitis
- 1994-USA- 224,000 ill from consuming ice cream containing Salmonella
- 2006-USA- 187 ill from Spinach containing e-coli 0157-H7
- 2009- Salmonella in peanut butter- cases in at least 43 States

#### **Definitions**

 Food Defense- activities associated with protecting the nation's food supply from deliberate/intentional acts of contamination or tampering

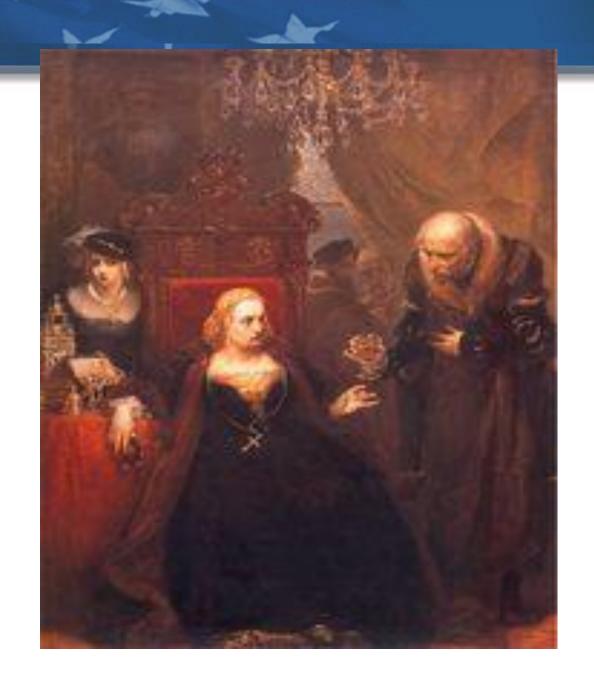
## Foods Identified as Being High Risk for Intentional Contamination

- Large Batch size, resulting in large number of servings
- Short shelf life, resulting in rapid turnaround at retail and rapid consumption
- Uniform mixing of contaminant into food
- High accessibility to critical nodes along the farm-to-fork continuum

## Historical Perspective

 Throughout human history, intentional application of poisoned food has been used as a method of assassination, murder, suicide, and execution





## Historical Perspective

- Prior to 1982, consumer product tampering was virtually unknown
- 1982 Chicago Tylenol murders
- 1984 Rajneesh Cult Incident
- 1986 Tylenol, Excedrin, & Lipton Cup-A-Soup
- 1991 Sudafed
- 1992 Goody's Headache Powder

# Intentional Food Contamination Dalles, Oregon

- 1984 Rajneesh cult members contaminate salad bars in local restaurants with salmonella
- Attempt to influence local elections (a test)
- Over 700 people become sick





## Michigan - 2002





- Disgruntled employee contaminates over 200 pounds of ground beef with insecticide
- Packages tainted meat in 1 to 3 pound portion containers for sale to customers
- Over 100 persons become ill

### New Sweden, Maine

- 2003 Homicide investigators interview town residents to find out why coffee laced with poison was served to church members
- One man dead, a dozen others become sick
- Lab tests confirm arsenic as the causative agent



#### Chinese Melamine Incident 2008

- 300,000 Reported Illnesses
  - 860 infants hospitalized
  - 6 infant deaths
- 2 Chinese milk industry executives sentenced to death
- Chinese Minister of Food Safety was executed

### Does it happen here?

- 2002- Lagrange, IN- A Shipshewana man was ordered to perform 200 hours of community service for putting pine scented cleaner in milk that he sold to an area cheese factory
- 2004- LaPorte, IN- farmer lost eight acres of corn valued at \$30,000 after someone filled a crop sprayer with weed killer instead of insecticide

## Does it happen here?

- 2005- Bloomington, IN,- Monroe County Health Department receives letter from someone threatening to contaminate local salad bars
- 2007- Food Protection receives information about someone threatening to contaminate certain soda pop products

#### Consumer Confidence

- 2007 Study by the Food and Marketing Institute found:
  - 66% of American Shoppers are confident the food they buy is safe
  - 38% said they stopped buying items linked to food outbreaks

#### Relevant Law:

- Terrorism: IC 35-47-12-1
- Agricultural Terrorism: IC 35-47-12-2
- Food Tampering: IC 35-45-8-3
- Interstate Food Tampering:
  - Federal Anti-Tampering Act
  - -USC 18- Part 1- Ch65- 1365

#### **Definitions**

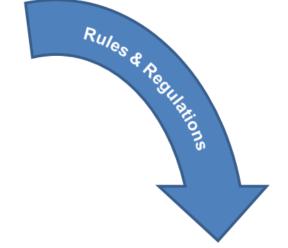
- Foodborne Illness- is any illness resulting from the consumption of contaminated food.
  - There are two types of foodborne Illness: food infection and food intoxication.





Food
Contamination
Risk Reduction

Food Protection



Food Defense

Food System Attack

Intentional Contamination

Food System Failure

**Food Safety** 

Unintentional Contamination

- •Raise Awareness
- ·Identify and prioritize critical nodes
- \*Vulnerability Assessment
- •Vulnerability Reduction Plans, Mitigation Strategies
- \*Deter Threats (Hardening a Soft Target)

**PREVENTION** 

•Government & Industry Training
•Food Inspections
•HACCP Programs
•Routine Monitoring and Surveillance
•Sampling

- \*Emergency Response Plans
  - •Food
  - Animal Disease
  - Plant

RESPONSE

•Foodborne Illness Investigations
•Environmental Investigations
•Laboratory Investigation/analysis
•Complaint Investigations

- \*Food, Animal, Plant Disposal Plans
- \*Decontamination Plans
- \*Restore Consumer Confidence

**RECOVERY** 

•Provide Information to Consumers/Industry
•Assist Food Industry Resume Operations
•Damage Assessments

## Foodborne Illness Investigations

- Epidemiology-cause of disease
- Environmental-cause of contamination
- Laboratory- agent/toxin causing disease

If intentional contamination is suspected:

 Criminal- forensic evidence to find perpetrator of crime

## **Changing Times**

- Shifting demographics
  - Increasing immunocompromised segment of population
- Convenience trends
  - Consuming more fast-foods and bringing prepared foods home to eat
- Consumption patterns
  - More foods available year round
- Global Food Supply- More imports

#### Structure

- Federal Agencies- Set Federal rules & guidance
- State Agencies- Adopt federal rules & guidance or draft their own
- Local Agencies- Adopt State rules & guidance or adopt their own
- Private industry- Must follow rules (should follow guidance) and assume liability if they produce an unsafe product

## CDC Food Defense Grant Objectives

- Conduct risk and vulnerability assessments
- Develop interventions/mitigation strategies
- Develop the capability to respond effectively
- Test and exercise plans

## ISDH Food Defense Program Overview



- Raising Awareness
- Food Processor Assessment
- IN State Fair Assessment
- Retail Food Assessment
- Food Emergency Response Plan (FERP)
- Interstate Food Transportation Assessment Project (IFTAP)

# IN Food Processing and Distribution Security Survey

- Survey Response
  - 934 surveys to processors/distributors
    - Including ISDH, FDA, Egg, Meat, & Dairy
  - 245 survey responses received-26%

New York/Indiana Survey Comparison

#### Fair and Festival Food Defense

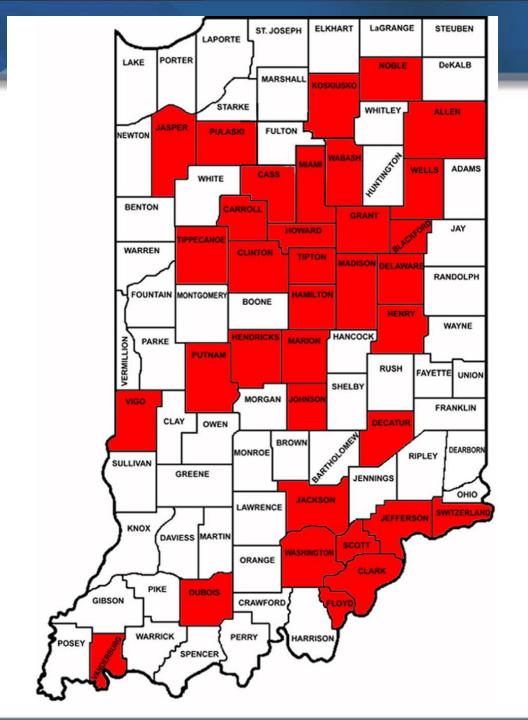


- Condiments
- Security of food stands and food storage
- Food safety overlap

## Retail Food Defense Project Assessment

ISDH Developed a Retail Food Security
 Checklist and a corresponding educational brochure to be utilized by both inspectors and restaurant managers/owners

Participating
Counties in the
Retail Food
Security
Assessment
Project



# Goal of the ISDH Food Emergency Response Plan (FERP)

 Ensure an effective, coordinated response to a food emergency situation to minimize illness and mortality and resume normal operations

## Plan Objectives

- Identify ISDH staff who can activate the FERP by establishing a Food Emergency Assessment Team
- Ensure effective and coordinated communication between federal, state, and local responders and the public
- Identify and define roles and responsibilities of supporting agencies and groups
- Provide contact information and procedures to facilitate rapid response to a food emergency situation

# What is expected of the states in food emergencies?

- National Planning Scenario 13- Food Contamination- is a preparedness baseline for a state food emergency response
- We should be prepared to handle 1200 illnesses, including 400 hospitalized in ICU, and 300 dead in 11 days

# IFTAP Overall Project Goal

 To determine the current state of food safety and defense of food in transit in interstate commerce

## Overall Objective

- Identify and test mechanisms for effective coordination between:
  - State Department of Health
  - Board of Animal Health
  - State Police- Motor Carrier Enforcement
  - Other Midwest States
  - Federal and Local Agencies

# **Trucking Statistics**

73% of all goods are shipped by truck

 90% of the US food supply is transported by truck

Truck traffic is expected to double by the year 2020

### Main Focus Areas

- Lack of refrigeration
- Cross-contamination
- Unknown food sources
- Lack of appropriate labeling
- Packaging
- Pest Activity
- Unsanitary food storage
- Security of food loads
- Driver knowledge of food safety & defense

# **ISP** Facilities









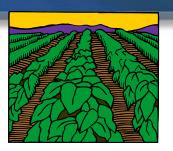
43

# Why it Matters

- We know there are people out there who want to cause us harm
- We are in the best position ever to minimize illness and mortality due to foodborne illness
- We must position ourselves to be able to respond effectively to any massive foodborne disease outbreak to avoid consumer panic

### What You Can Do

- Offer your support to assist with
  - Consumer/industry education and training
    - Recommend Food Defense planning/assessments
  - Food recalls
  - Reaching out through your contacts to the agriculture community (if necessary)
- Leverage new technology to share info



### Food Protection From Farm to Fork!



truck railroad boat

truck railroad boat

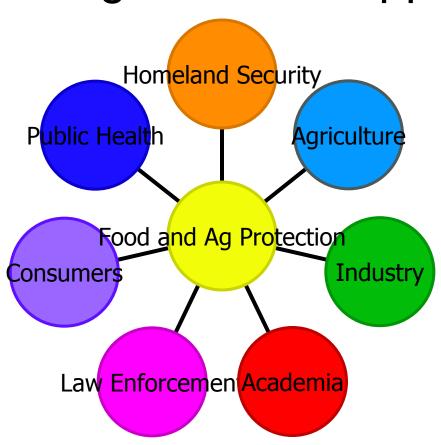


truck railroad





# We are all stakeholders in protecting our food supply!



Questions?

Contact Info:

**Travis Goodman** 

tgoodman@isdh.in.gov

317-412-2105



Farmland Defense Mascot